

Basketball Sports Envoys

Qatar—May 27th - June 1st, 2009

Sam Perkins-Perkins is a NBA Legend who played from 1984-2001 for the Dallas Mavericks, Los Angeles Lakers, Indiana Pacers, and the Seattle SuperSonics. He is currently Vice President of Player Relations for the Indiana Pacers. He was part of the 1984 gold-medal-winning U.S Olympic team and was also a member of the 1982 NCAA champion North Carolina Tar Heels. Perkins participated in U.S. Department of States Sports Envoy Program for Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan (2008), and Algeria (2005).

Carla McGhee- McGhee is currently the assistant coach of the women's basketball team at Auburn University. She played for WNBA's Orlando Miracle from 1999-2003, the Atlanta Glory of the ABL (1996-98,) and played abroad in Germany, France, Turkey, South Korea, Spain, Italy and Greece. Additionally, she was a member of the 1996 gold-winning Olympic team and helped the Lady Vols become NCAA Champions in 1987 and 1989. McGhee graduated from University of Tennessee in 1990.

Bahrain—June 12th-18th, 2009

Jerome Williams- Williams is a former NBA player of the New York Knicks, the Detroit Pistons, the Chicago Bulls, and the Toronto Raptors from 1997-2005. He attended Georgetown University and graduated in 1996 with a Bachelors Degree in Sociology and minors in Business and Theology. Jerome was also chosen to represent the USA in the 1995 World University Games.

Andrea Stinson- Stinson is the varsity women's basketball coach at Central Cabarrus High School in Concord, North Carolina. She is a former WNBA player for the Charlotte Sting and the Detroit Shock from 1998-2005. Stinson was named to the Eastern Conference All-Star team in 2001. She was a participant in the Algeria Sports Envoy Program (2005).

Philippines—July 27th-August 7th, 2009

Erik Spoelstra- Spoelstra is the head coach of the NBA's Miami Heat and took the team to the 2009 NBA Playoffs. He is the first Asian American head coach of any North American professional sport and is currently the youngest head coach in the league. Spoelstra graduated from the University of Portland in 1992 with a degree in communications.

David Fizdale - Fizdale is currently the assistant coach under Erick Spoelstra for the Miami Heat. He also was an assistant coach for five years of the Atlanta Hawks and the Golden State Warriors. A three-year starter and point guard while playing at the University of San Diego, Fizdale was selected to the All-West Coast Conference team after his senior season in 1996. Fizdale earned a bachelor's degree in communications and a minor in sociology from San Diego in 1996.

Sue Wicks- Sue Wicks is one of the original members of the WNBA, having joined the New York Liberty in the inaugural 1997 season. She played for the New York Liberty from 1992-2002. Wicks is currently the assistant coach at St. Francis College. She spent her collegiate years at Rutgers University where she was named a Kodak All-American in 86', 87', and 88'.

Georgia—August 3rd-8th, 2009

Vladimir Stepania- Stepania is a Georgian basketball player who was part of the Slovenian Championships in 1997-1998. He is a former NBA player of the Seattle SuperSonics (from 1998-2000), New Jersey Nets (from 2000-01), Miami Heat (2001-03), and the Portland Trail Blazers (2003-04).

Chantelle Anderson- Anderson has been playing in the WNBA since 2003. She played for the Sacramento Monarchs, the San Antonio Silver Stars, and is currently playing for the Atlanta Dream. Additionally she played basketball for Vanderbilt University, where she graduated in 2003. She was part of the gold medal-winning U.S. team at the World University Games in 2001.

Mozambique—August 29th - September 1st, 2009

Teresa Edwards- Edwards is a former WNBA player of the Minnesota Lynx from 2003-2004. She was part of the four -gold-medal-winning Olympic teams ('84, '88, '96, '00), and was the star player and head coach for the Atlanta Glory of the American Basketball League (ABL). In 2000, Sports Illustrated magazine placed her as 22nd of the "100 Greatest Female Athletes of the 20th Century". Edwards was also a two time All-American basketball player at the University of Georgia, and graduated in 1989.

J.J Redick- Redick is a current NBA shooting guard of the Orlando Magic. He has been in the NBA since 2006. Redick graduated from Duke University, where he played on the basketball team and was named ACC Men's Basketball Player of the Year in 2005 and 2006.

Uganda—September 7th-10th, 2009

Tyrus Thomas- Thomas is a current NBA forward of the Chicago Bulls, and has been playing since 2006. He joined the NBA after one season of college basketball at Louisiana State University where he was named NCAA Atlanta Region Most Outstanding Player in 2006.

Nykesha Sales- Sales was a WNBA player for the Orlando Miracle and the Connecticut Sun from 1998-2008, and was a six-time WNBA All-Star. She also was a NCAA-winning basketball player for the University of Connecticut in 1995. In 1997 she was a member of the gold medal-winning USA Women's Team at the World University Games, and a year later graduated with a business major from the University of Connecticut.